



**CITY OF BURLINGTON
BOARD OF HEALTH**

645 Pine Street
Post Office Box 849
Burlington, VT 05402-0849
802-863-0442
802-652-4221 FAX
802-863-0450 TTY

BOARD OF HEALTH

Alan R. Sousie, Chair • Fernand C. Crete • Ian C. Galbraith • Mary D. Hart • James Vos

BOARD STAFF ASSISTANT

Britta Mainello

HEALTH OFFICER

Kathleen Butler

**BOARD OF HEALTH REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2008**

The meeting was commenced at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 14, 2008 at Contois Auditorium, City Hall. Present were Chair Sousie; Member's Crete, Galbraith, Hart and Vos; Health Officer Butler, and Staff Assistant Mainello. Other's present: Maurie Bartlett of TruGreen ChemLawn and Austin Sumner of the Vermont Department of Health.

1. Agenda:

There were no changes to the agenda.

2. Minutes:

Motion to accept minutes by Hart, seconded by Crete. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Follow-up Discussion regarding BHS Air Quality Concerns

Chair Sousie summarized to the board last month's discussions regarding the air quality at the high school. Chair Sousie reminded the board that this case is still in an arbitration period and the board will have to wait for answers regarding the specifics of their questions. Overall, based on the facts and discussions of last month's meeting, Chair Sousie and the board agree that the School's Administration have addressed the air quality concerns in a timely manner and have agreed to notify the board if there are any further issues.

In regards to school inspections, Chair Sousie informed the board that Chris Giard, Maintenance Director of Burlington School District provided a school inspection schedule for fall 2008 inspections. Chair Sousie stated that in the fall the board will shadow a school inspection.

Sumner, Vermont Department of Health stated that since the last board meeting a committee has been established titled The BHS Indoor Air Quality Committee/ Envision Program. This committee is made up of teachers, community members, administration and specialist who meet to discuss healthy initiatives in schools. The purpose of this committee is to address concerns and deal with them promptly.

Further discussion among the board and Sumner.

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In conclusion to these discussions, Sumner that it is his belief that the Envision Program will have more stringent guidelines and will be more successful than other committees in the past.

4. Pesticide Ordinance Related Matters:

a. Ward 4/7 Neighborhood Planning Assembly (NPA) presentation on May 15
The board discussed details of the presentation and assigned duties to members. Vos stated that he would like the board make a presentation at each of the NPA meetings. The board agreed to do so and will make their presentation to Ward 5 NPA sometime at the end of June.

b. Discussion and action re: Chemlawn 2008 Applications Proposal
The board reviewed Chemlawn's 2008 application request and addressed several questions to Bartlette. One general question the board asked was how Bartlette determines when to apply, and what testing is done to determine an application is needed. Bartlette stated that there are no tests done; his specialists conduct a visual inspection, then determined whether or not apply a pesticide or herbicide.

Further discussion among the board and Bartlette.

Chair Sousie stated that he commends Bartlette on the company's twelve percent (12%) reduction of pesticide and herbicide use. However, when reading through this year's proposal, which in essence is a request for blanket approval in the 500ft Buffer Zone, the board expressed concern.

Chair Sousie stated that the board does not want to authorize blanket approval in the 500ft Buffer Zone. Furthermore, Chair Sousie stated that despite the Bartlette's claim of pesticide/herbicide reduction he noticed three new chemicals in this year's request. Chair Sousie stated that it is the board's desire to minimize the use of pesticide and herbicides and stated that the board is currently redrafting the ordinance to expand the current pesticide ordinance beyond the buffer zone to the entire city.

Chair Sousie called for a motion for Bartlette's request.

Galbraith made a motion to deny seasonal/ blanket approval and to allow the use of pesticide/ herbicides on a case-by-case basis with approval from the Code Enforcement Office. Motion seconded by Crete. One abstention, Vos. Motion carried.

Hart made a motion that any written information as indicated by the ordinance that is distributed to the public concerning pesticide/ herbicide fertilizer or other chemical applications will be reviewed by the Code Enforcement Office and the board before distribution and that the application will provide in writing standard operating procedures for notification. Motion seconded by Crete. Motion passed unanimously.

c. Discussion regarding the development of educational and control strategies for future use:

The Board discussed the following topics:

--Suggestion made to develop warning signage for yearly placement in the 500 foot Buffer Zone

- Repetition of education outreach in North Avenue News, Seven Days and other local publications
- Development of an ordinance specific, educational pamphlet for neighborhood canvassing
- Strategies for point of sale regulation and advertising, e.g. mandatory inclusion of risk information in all advertisements used by applicators especially in the Buffer Zone; in-store placement of signage or educational material at the point of product display re: harmfulness of chemical contents of products and recommended alternatives

5. Staff Reports:

Mainello reported that the next board meeting will be Wednesday, June 11th at the Ethan Allen Residence.

6. Member Reports

Butler reported to the board on the new stormwater ordinance, the new lead ordinance and her meeting with the Mayor Assistant, Reinhart and Chief O'Neil regarding flu pandemic planning.

Chair Sousie state that he would like to give Mainello the authority to renew all memberships for the board. Mainello will renew the National Association of Local Boards of Health this month.

There being no further business, Hart motioned to close the meeting. Motion approved unanimously.